

CLAIMS

1. A method for enabling the generation of an updated web-page in a cache, said method comprising:
 - 1.1. implementing a programmable rule defining a triggering event, the occurrence of which is indicative of the existence of an obsolete portion of said web-page;
 - 1.2. detecting the occurrence of said triggering event;
 - 1.3. in response to the occurrence of said triggering event, requesting an update of said obsolete portion; and
 - 1.4. receiving an updated portion of said web-page for storage in said cache.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising
 - 2.1. generating a web-page incorporating said updated portion therein; and
 - 2.2. serving said web-page to a user.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein implementing said programmable rule comprises interpreting a script containing instructions for defining said rule.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein detecting said triggering event comprises detecting an elapsed time defined by said programmable rule.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein detecting said triggering event comprises detecting the receipt of an updated portion of said web-page.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein requesting an updated portion of said web-page comprises formulating a database query to be carried out by a database engine.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said web-page comprises, in addition to said updated portion, a plurality of constituent portions and said method further comprises providing an assembly script containing instructions for assembling said constituent portions and said updated portion into said web-page.

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8. The method of claim 1, wherein
requesting an update comprises establishing communication with an origin
server and requesting said update therefrom, and
receiving an updated portion comprises receiving said updated portion from said
origin server.

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9. The method of claim 8, further comprising a cache memory element separate
from said origin server.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising a cache memory element at said origin
server.

10 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising collecting access-data indicative of
how frequently said web-page is requested.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising managing the content of said cache in
response to said access-data.

13. A web-serving system comprising:
15 a cache memory having content stored therein;
a cache manager in communication with said cache memory for controlling said
content of said cache memory; and
a programmable script in communication with said cache manager for detecting
the occurrence of a triggering event, and in response to said triggering event,
20 instructing said cache manager to alter said content of said cache memory.

14. The web-serving system of claim 13, further comprising a usage-monitor for
collecting access-data indicative of the frequency with which a selected web-page
is requested.

15. The web-serving system of claim 14, wherein said usage-monitor provides said access data to said programmable script, and said programmable script alters said content of said cache memory in response to said access-data.

5 16. The web-serving system of claim 13, further comprising a communication path between said programmable script and an administrator process, said communication path enabling said programmable script to receive instructions from said administrator process.

10 17. The web-serving system of claim 13 further comprising a page assembler containing instructions for assembling constituent portions of said web-page into said web-page.

18. The web-serving system of claim 13 wherein said programmable script is a Java script.

15 19. A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon software for enabling the generation of an updated web-page in a cache, said software comprising instructions for:

implementing a programmable rule defining a triggering event, the occurrence of which is indicative of the existence of an obsolete portion of said web-page;

detecting the occurrence of said triggering event;

20 in response to the occurrence of said triggering event, requesting an update of said obsolete portion; and

receiving an updated portion of said web-page for storage in said cache.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said software further comprises instructions for:

generating a web-page incorporating said updated portion therein; and

25 serving said web-page to a user.

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21. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, said instructions for implementing said programmable rule further comprise instructions for interpreting a script containing instructions for defining said rule.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said instructions for detecting said triggering event comprise instructions for detecting an elapsed time defined by said programmable rule.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said instructions for detecting said triggering event comprise instructions detecting the receipt of an updated portion of said web-page.

24. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said instructions for requesting an updated portion of said web-page comprise instructions for formulating a database query to be carried out by a database engine.

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said web-page comprises, in addition to said updated portion, a plurality of constituent portions and said computer-readable medium further comprises instructions for assembling said constituent portions and said updated portion into said web-page.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein
said instructions for requesting an update comprise instructions for establishing communication with an origin server and requesting said update therefrom,
and
said instructions for receiving an updated portion comprise instructions for receiving said updated portion from said origin server.

27. The computer-readable medium of claim 19, wherein said software further comprises instructions for collecting access-data indicative of how frequently said web-page is requested.

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28. The computer-readable medium of claim 27, wherein said software further comprises instructions for managing the content of said cache in response to said access-data.